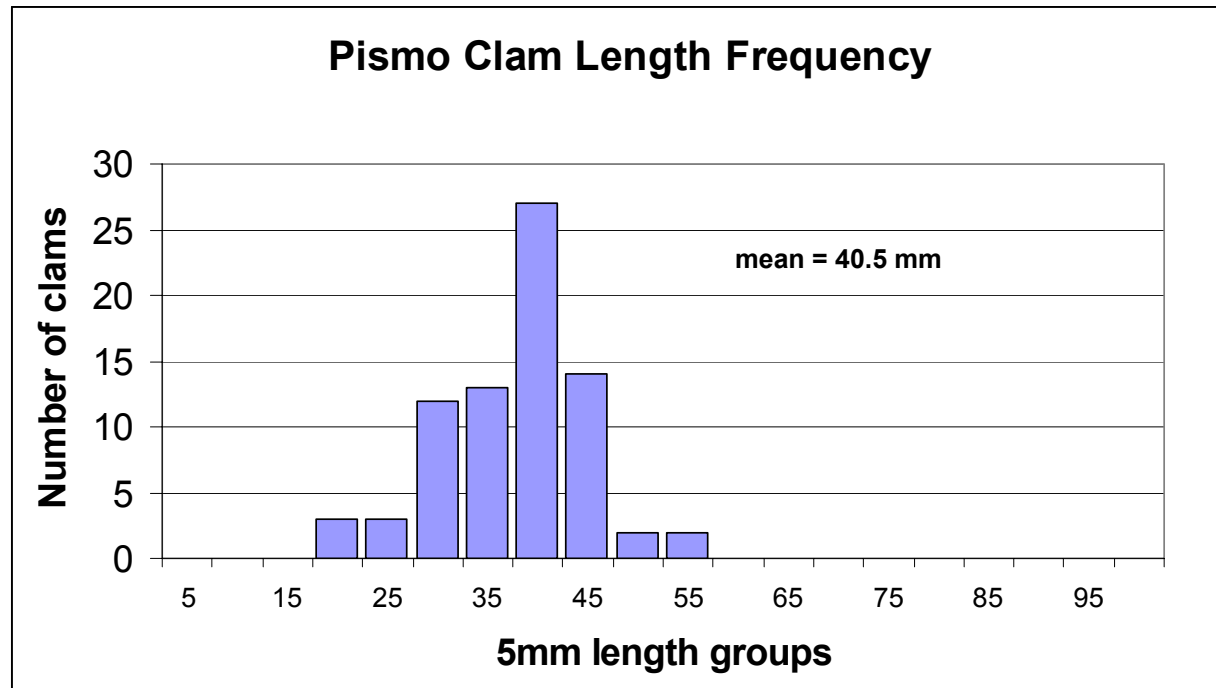


### DFG Pismo Clam Survey Data Summary, May, 2008- March, 2009

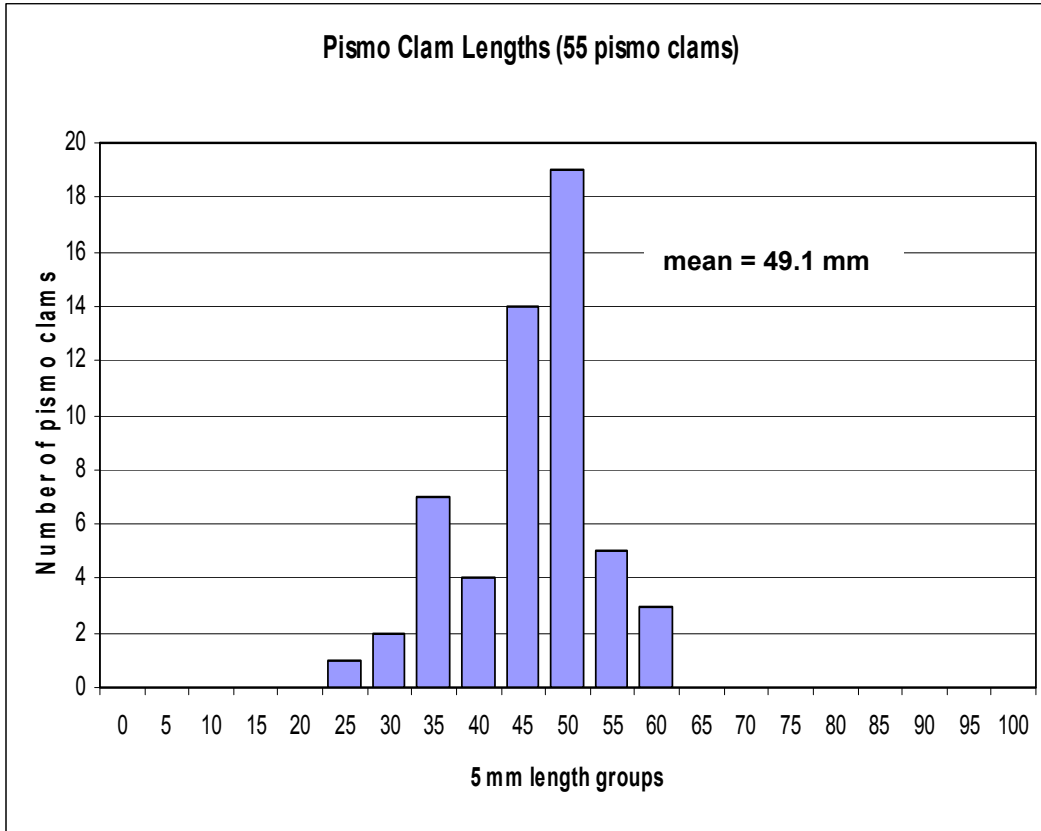
Survey location	Survey Date	Low tide (ft)	# transects	# Clams** measured	Size range (mm)	Mean size (mm)	Area surveyed (m <sup>2</sup> )	Est. clam density (#/m <sup>2</sup> )	# Sandcrabs (E/B/L)*
Sunset/Palm Beach, Monterey Co.	05/08/08	-1.7	4	76 (71)	23.0-58.0	40.5	26.7	2.66	n/a
Sunset/Palm Beach, Monterey Co.	12/11/08	-1.2	5	55 (43)	23.0-65.0	49.1	24.6	1.75	n/a
Pismo Beach, SLO Co.	03/09/09	-0.8	2	36 (36)	23.0-75.0	52.3	39.5	0.91	547/19/4
Silver Strand Beach, Ventura Co.	11/13/08	-1.3	9	28 (25)	13.0-72.0	31.3	45.8	0.55	249/1/0
Coronado Beach, San Diego Co.	12/11/08	-1.5	6	83 (72)	9.0-152.0	56.8	30.0	2.40	1/1/8
Imperial Beach, San Diego Co.	02/09/09	-1.6	2	27 (25)	9.0-23.0	20.9	20.0	1.25	1/0/2
<b>Totals</b>			28	305 (272)	9.0 -152.0	45.02	186.6	1.46	798/21/14

(\* E = *Emerita analoga*, B = *Blepharipoda occidentalis*, L = *Lepidopa myops*) (\*\* Numbers in parentheses are # clams dug in transects)

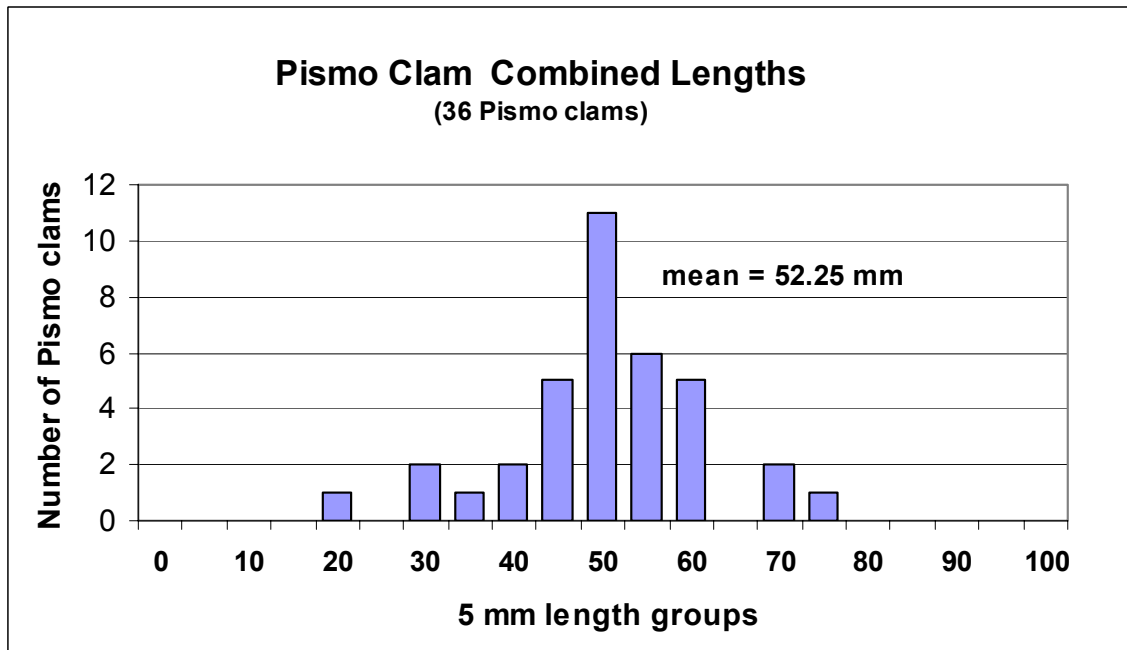
#### Sunset/Palm Beach, Monterey Co. 05/08/08 (76 Pismo clams)



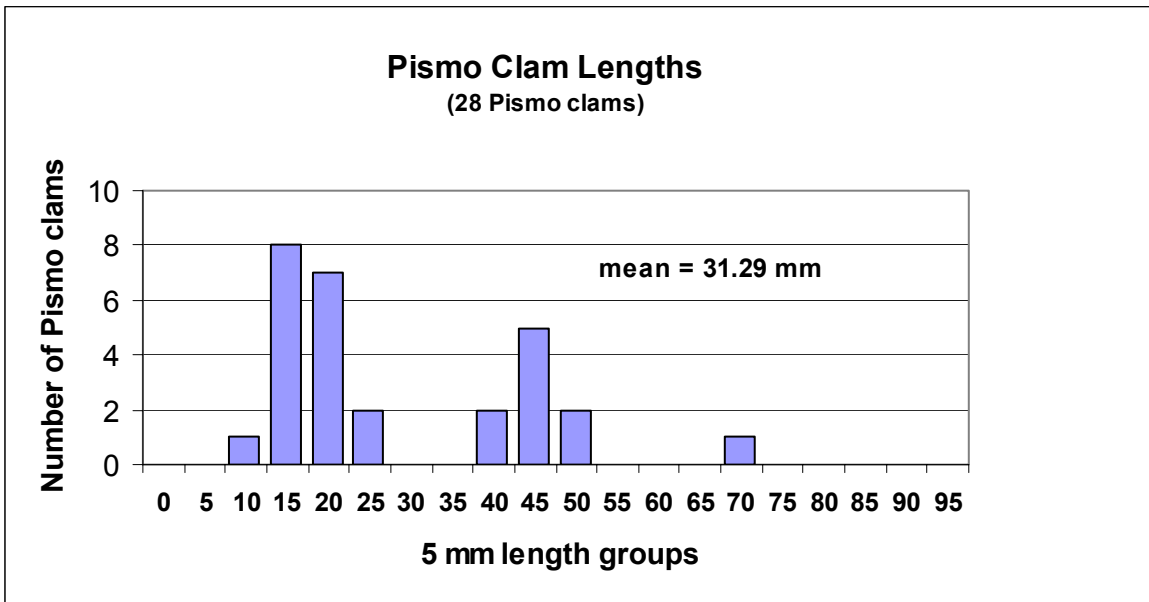
**Sunset/Palm Beach, Monterey Co. 12/11/08**



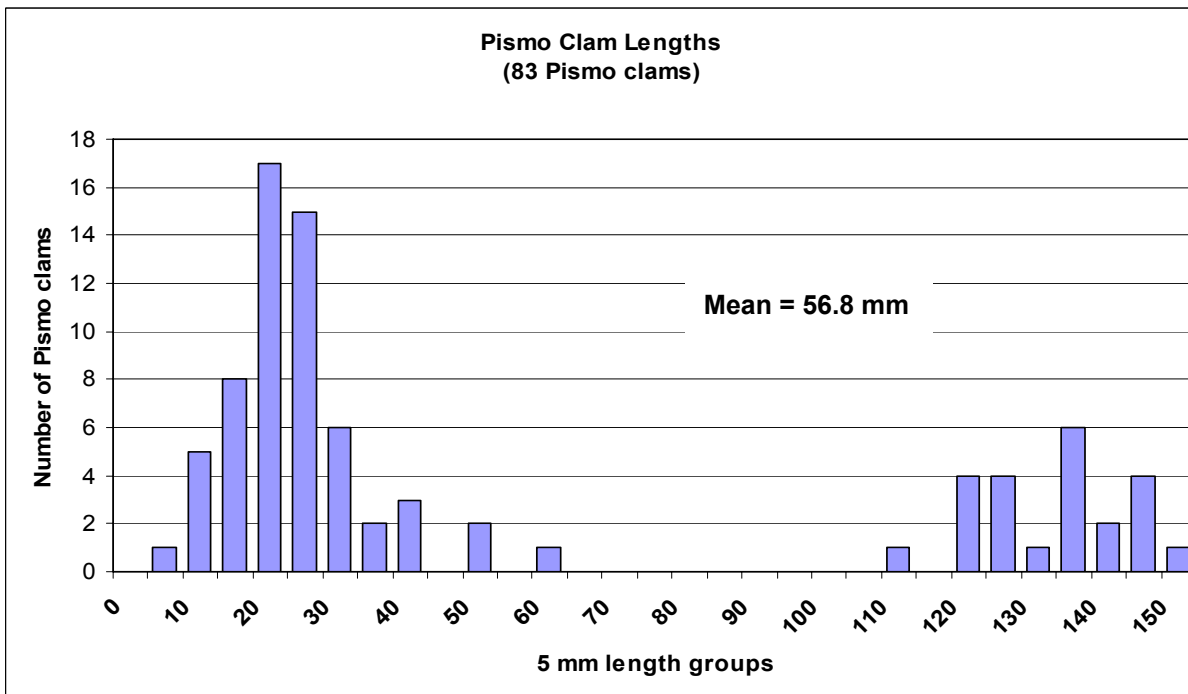
**Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo Co, 03/09/9**



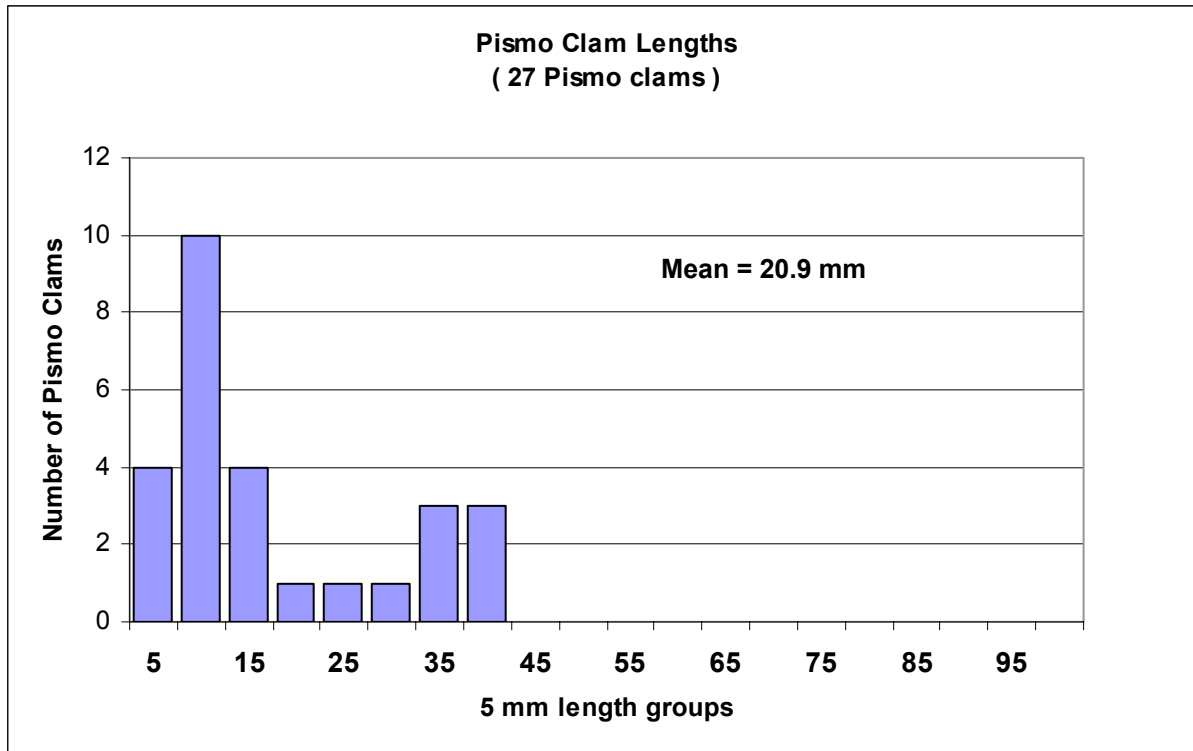
Silver Strand Beach, Ventura Co., 11/13/08



Coronado Beach, San Diego Co. 12/11/08



## Imperial Beach, San Diego Co., 02/09/09



### Some Observations

- ▶ **Sunset Beach and Palm Beach at Monterey Bay had relatively high Pismo clam densities, when compared to the surveyed clam densities on beaches further to the south. This was the case despite the presence of foraging sea otters in that portion of Monterey Bay, and their absence south of Santa Barbara County.**
- ▶ **There was a distinct length mode that showed up in several of the length frequency plots (except for the two San Diego beach survey plots). The modal lengths, clustered between 40 to 55 mm, were within the size range typical for 2 year old Pismo clams.**
- ▶ **Coronado in San Diego County was the only surveyed beach site that produced Pismo clams that met or exceeded the minimum 4.5" (114 mm) legal size requirement. The Coronado length frequency histogram displays a distinct length mode at about 140 mm (5.5 inches).**
- ▶ **Legal Pismos had been taken by sport clammers at Silver Strand Beach in Ventura County both before and after our November, 2008 survey there, indicating that our transect lines may not have extended down far enough into the surf zone to allow us to sample the larger Pismo clams.**
- ▶ **Coronado and Imperial Beach both had many (31) Pismo clams in the 9 to 20 mm size range; clams within this size group are, according to published Pismo clam length/age tables, less than 1 year old.**